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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 318, 9th Waning of Tabodwe 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Thursday, 28 February 2019

State Counsellor attends 35th National Day of Brunei Darussalam in Nay Pyi Taw



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi addresses the celebration to mark the 35th National Day of Brunei Darussalam and 25th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the celebrations to mark the 35th National Day of Brunei Darussalam and 25th Anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

It was also attended by Union ministers U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Win Khaing, Dr. Myo Thein Gyi and U Thaug Tun,

Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam Mr. Pehin Dato Abdu'r Rahmani Dato Basir and wife, invited guests and officials.

Upon arrival at the reception, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was welcomed by Ambassador Mr. Pehin Dato Abdu'r Rahmani Dato Basir and wife.

Afterwards, Brunei Ambassador Mr. Pehin Dato Ab-

du'r Rahmani Dato Basir and wife presented a bouquet to the State Counsellor.

Afterwards, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi signed the visitor's book of the Embassy of Brunei Darussalam.

The ceremony to mark the 35th National Day of Brunei Darussalam and 25th Anniversary of the Diplomatic

Relations between Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar was opened with the national anthem of Myanmar and Brunei.

Afterwards, Brunei Ambassador Mr. Pehin Dato Abdu'r Rahmani Dato Basir extended greetings.

Next, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi extended greetings in commemora-

tion of the 35th National Day of Brunei Darussalam and 25th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar.

Afterwards, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi posed for documentary photos together with the invited guests and enjoyed the dinner.—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Second Pyithu Hluttaw holds 18th-day meeting of 11th regular session

By Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

THE 18th day meeting of the 11th regular session of Second Pyithu Hluttaw was held yesterday at Pyithu Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw.

In the morning session, Pyithu Hluttaw approved the appointment of MP Dr. U Win Aung of KhinU constituency as the member of the Economic and Financial Development Committee, and U Htay Min Thein of Gyobingauk constituency as member of Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee.

Afterwards, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Tun Tun Hein presented the duty, responsibilities, rights and term of the Women and Children's Rights Committee.

Formation of Women and Children Rights Committee

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat then reported to the Hluttaw that the 15-member Women and Children's Rights Committee would be formed with members Dr Daw Khin Soe Soe Kyi of Pyay constituency, U Win Naing of Mogaung



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat. PHOTO: MNA

constituency, Daw Nan Than Than Lwin of Hpa-an constituency, Daw Wint Wah Htun of Shawdaw constituency, Daw Ni Shwe Hlwan of Thantlan constituency, Dr A Zin Latt of Shwebo constituency, Daw Khin Sandi of Launglon constituency, Daw Mi Kon Chan of Paung constituency, Daw Yin Min Hlaing of Gangaw constituency, U Naing Htoo Aung of Natogyi constituency, Daw NanKhin Saw of Kunhing constituency, Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathedaung constituency, Dr. Daw Shwe Pon of Bago constituency, Dr. Daw Kyi Moh Moh Lwin of Singaing constituency

and Tatmadaw representative Tatmadaw Representative Colonel Myint Cho, Chairperson Dr Khin Soe Soe Kyi of Pyay constituency, and Secretary Dr. Daw Kyi Moh Moh Lwin of Singaing constituency.

14 farmland of No.13 Bok-su in Salingyi Township

U Win Thein Zaw of Salingyi constituency asked a question if the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation has a plan to release the farmland of 141 farmers in Salingyi Township from the forest reserve area.

In his reply to the question, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation had already answered the question that the ministry has no plan to release the farmland which are listed in 2013 as the farmland established in the forest reserve without permission.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation has responsibility to grant land use form-7 only to the farmland which were excluded from the list of forest reserve areas in accordance with the 2012 Farmland Law.

Development of seed sector

A motion submitted by U Aung Kyi Thein, Chaungzon Constituency, urging the Union Government to speed up the efforts for development of seed sector which is one of the main resource for farmers.

In his discussion, Dr. U Maung Thin of Meiktila constituency urged the Union Government to educate farmers about quality seeds as it would be helpful for farmers to realize

their misunderstanding about seeds.

"We should take example from troubles caused by import of low-quality seeds," he said.

The MP also stressed the need to stop using low-quality seeds in the agricultural sector.

Following the discussion of eight MPs, Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw said the Union Government is making efforts for development of the seed industry in the country with the use of own budget and international assistance.

The Union Government has established laboratories in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay with foreign aid to test the quality of seeds.

Efforts are being made to produce quality seeds not only for rice industry but also for other crops including edible oil crops, beans and pulses with the aim producing sufficiently for domestic consumption sufficiently and export.

Afterwards, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker sought the approval from the law makers to approve the motion and announced the approval. ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Amyotha Hluttaw

Eleventh regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw holds its 18th-day meeting

By Aung Ye Thwin, Lu Maw

A 18th-DAY meeting of the eleventh regular session of Second Amyotha Hluttaw was convened, yesterday, at the Amyotha Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw, where asterisk-marked questions were asked and answered, a bill was approved and a motion was discussed.

Construction of a new high-standard cinema

At the question-and-answer session, U Tin Aung Tun of Magway Region constituency 5 asked if there was a plan to construct a new high-standard cinema after the demolition of the old one on U Awwbartha Road, Ward 3, Minbu Town, Magway Region. Regarding the query, Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun replied that "The Hla Thiri Cinema" was nationalized by promulgating official notification No. 128, dated July 1, 1969



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

of the Ministry of Information, under the Government of the Revolutionary Council of the Union of Myanmar. Later the cinema was sold off to private business woman Daw Khin Ohnmar Kyaw at K 5.05 million in accordance with the notification No. 10/2002, dated July 26, 2002 of the Privatization Commission.

According to the terms and conditions of the contract agreement, thy buyer shall have

to work in the filming industry while carrying out the transformation of the old cinema into the cinema complex which could entertain the films. Thus there was currently no plan to update the Hla Thiri Cinema.

He added that as for the buyer Daw Khin Ohnmar, the reconstruction of the digital high-standard cinema would be implemented under the supervision of the Magway Region Government.

Construction of housing units and a playground for the children

Dr. Khin Ma Gyi of Kachin State constituency 8 asked if there was a plan to construct a new housing unit for the government employees of the Information and Public Relations Department while building a playground for the children in the compound of the office. Deputy Minister for Information U Aung Hla Tun replied that officials-concerned of the IPRD are being made a cost estimate with the help of engineers in order to repair the deterioration of the house. For the time being now, only repair works would be made, as a first priority, in order to build the housing units where necessary, and currently there was no plan to reconstruct new housing units and a playground for the children in the office's compound due to the budget restrictions. But the construction works would be materialized only through the patronage of well-wishers/donors or implementation of the BOT

system.

Upgrading the Gwa airfield

U Soe Win of Rakhine State constituency 12 asked if there was a plan to upgrade the Gwa airfield and when the airline operation would start at the Gwa airfield, where operation of the Gwa airfield has been terminated since 1982. Regarding this query, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo replied that currently, there was no plan to upgrade the airfield and time of the airfield operation could not be estimated.

Question-and-answer session

Similarly, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo and Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Htun Naing replied the queries raised by Daw Thiri Yadana of Mon State constituency 12 and U Kyaw Ni Naing of Shan State constituency 11.

SEE PAGE-5

Cooperation is key to swift implementation of e-Government: State Counsellor

THE e-Government Steering Committee held their third coordination meeting at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday and was attended by its patron, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

State Counsellor's speech

In her speech delivered at the meeting, the State Counsellor highlighted the inclusion of e-Government in Myanmar's 12-point Economic Policy as: 'Prioritizing the rapid development of fundamental economic infrastructure such as electricity generation, roads and ports, and establishing a data ID card system, a digital government strategy, and an e-government system.' She said this would allow Myanmar to integrate with the developing world and provide Myanmar with opportunities to overcome the challenges she was currently facing.

The State Counsellor said she expected work to be proceeding swiftly now that the working committee has been formed. She said the fundamental component for establishing e-Government was setting up an e-Government Integrated Data Center (e-GIDC). Since this data center would be storing news and information concerning the country's citizens, providing it with the best security was a major priority, said the State Counsellor.

She said the Myanmar font on computers needed to be amended to deliver electronic services to the public in Burmese. She said Myanmar must head towards replacing the current widely used Myanmar-3 Font with the Pyidaungsu Font, which was more aligned with International Standard Organization 10646. She said this was important since ethnic languages



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the third coord meeting of e-Government Steering Committee in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

would also be incorporated in the future.

The State Counsellor said Myanmar's Tele Density was over 100 per cent and access to the Internet was over 80 per cent. She said the people were capable of using modern technology and as such, the government's systems needed to be up to date as well. She said we must effectively implement data security, data privacy, and data sharing to protect public and national security. She said comments and ideas on the Cyber Law and Policy from the public and local and international experts needed to be selected on the relevance it has on the country.

The State Counsellor emphasized the importance for cooperation between the Union Government, state and regional governments, and related departments. She said licensed telecommunication operators and service providers have been notified to adhere to existing laws. She said the objective of ensuring

ease of business was to attract investment into the country, but this did not mean people were given the green light to do as they please. She said this may be profitable in the short term but would bring serious consequences in the long run.

The State Counsellor reiterated that cooperation between the various governing entities of Myanmar was gravely important, as only by cooperating would development swiftly follow. She said implementing ID cards are vital for e-Government and an ID system would resolve a lot of current challenges swamping the nation. She stressed the importance of quickly implementing this system and for departments already using this system to communicate with those that haven't.

Vice President U Myint Swe's speech

Next, Vice President U Myint Swe, chairperson of the steering committee, delivered a speech where he first explained the history and formation of the e-Government steering committee and its subsequent committees and organizations.

The Vice President said they were undertaking work in line with the patron's guidelines delivered at the committee's first coordination meeting: 'For e-Government to be implemented speedily and to achieve progress, there were three requirements: skills, investment and cooperation. Of the three, cooperation was the first that

needs to be initiated and government departments needed to cooperate for e-Government to succeed.'

The Vice President said the steering committee has accomplished two of the five tasks set in the first coordination meeting while the remaining three tasks, which require long-term implementation by nature, need to be completed within a designated time frame. He said they have also accomplished 5 of the 21 tasks set at the second coordination meeting, and urged everyone to work together to swiftly accomplish the remaining 16 tasks.

The Vice President said the e-GIDC was estimated to take over three years to accomplish. He said they were in negotiations with the Economic Development Cooperation Fund of South Korea to acquire US\$ 93.779 million for the data center. He said they were preparing to hire a suitable data center from the private sector for the time being so that the e-Government system could be implemented swiftly. He suggested forming an assessment committee to carry out this idea. He called for suggestions and opinions on cooperating with the World Bank on enacting a cyber law and other laws related to information technology in Myanmar.

Steering committee members begin discussions

Afterwards, the steering committee's secretary, Deputy

Minister U Thar Oo, reported completed tasks of the second coordination meeting's decisions.

This was followed by presentations from affiliated departments and subcommittees on implementing a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system, replacing Myanmar3 Font with Pyidaungsu Font in government departments, the migration process to the ISO 10646 approved Unicode system throughout Myanmar, and designating domain names and emails for government ministries and organizations and the steering committee passed decisions on the submitted presentations.

Participants then presented their suggestions and requirements to swiftly implement the e-Government system and the Vice President and officials responded to them. The Vice President delivered a closing speech at the end of the meeting.

The coordination meeting was attended by steering committee members including Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, Union Auditor-General, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman, state and regional chief ministers, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, Deputy Ministers, Myanmar Computer Professionals Association Patron U Thaug Tin, invited experts and officials. —MNA ■

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)

The objective of ensuring ease of business was to attract investment into the country, but this did not mean people were given the green light to do as they please.

State Counsellor receives Chinese Special Envoy for Asian Affairs

DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar received Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on 27th February 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on matters related to

recent developments in Rakhine State and on Myanmar's peace and national reconciliation process and China's continued constructive support in Myanmar's endeavours.

During the visit, Mr. Sun Guoxiang paid a visit to Hla Phoe Khaung Transit Centre, Shwe Zar and Min Gan villages in Rakhine State to observe the Myanmar Government's preparations for the repatriation process. —MNA



Chinese Special Envoy for Asian Affairs, Mr. Sun Guoxiang, visits Hla Phoe Khaung Transit Centre in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Chinese Special Envoy for Asian Affairs, Mr. Sun Guoxiang, in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

PRC donates 20 Sinotruck Howo cars to Rakhine State for repatriation, resettlement processes

A CEREMONY to donate 20 Sinotruck Howo cars by the People's Republic of China (PRC) to Rakhine State for Repatriation and Resettlement of displaced people was held yesterday at National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC).

During the event, Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang said the People's Republic of China is supporting Myanmar's efforts for peace and stability in Rakhine State. He made a wish for peace, stability and social economic development in Rakhine State with the efforts led by Myanmar government.

Afterwards, Union Minister and Chairman of the Committee on Repatriation and Resettlement of Displaced People Dr. Win Myat Aye said Myanmar is ready for repatriation in accord with the Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral agreement. Though Ministry of Defence has arranged vehicles for transportation of the displaced people in



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang and officials pose for a photo at National Reconciliation and Peace Centre. **PHOTO: MNA**

two reception centres and one transit centre, more vehicles were needed, and expressed thanks to PRC for the 20-vehicle donation.

The Union Minister then expressed his thanks to PRC

for continued cooperation on the repatriation processes.

The Union Minister then accepted the documents related to vehicles handed over by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang, and presented

in return certificate of honor to the Chinese Ambassador.

The Union Minister then re-handed over the vehicle-related documents to the Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu. The Union Minister, Chi-

nese Ambassador and party then observed the donated vehicles, and have a commemorative photo taken.

In the morning, the Union Minister met with People's Republic of China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs Mr. Sun Guoxiang at his ministry.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to preparation at two reception camps and one transit camp for repatriation of displaced people, resettlement after repatriation, housing construction, vocational schools and rehabilitation works, and Myanmar side's preparedness for education, health and social services accesses.

They also discussed the Special Envoy's coming visit to Bangladesh and United Nations Headquarters to discuss the current development of Rakhine State.— MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Senior General visits Tatmadaw Heavy Industry Factory in Magway



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects truck assembly lines at the Tatmadaw Heavy Industry Factory in Magway yesterday. **PHOTO: OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF**

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, visited the Tatmadaw Heavy Industry Factory in Magway yesterday afternoon.

During his visit, the Senior General inspected truck assembly lines for TATA Trucks and vehicles and producing of gear boxes for City Buses and Innlay Jeeps.

Next, the Senior General discussed requirements of the employees of the factory and gave comments and advice to

ensure coordination. To congratulate the performances of the employees for producing gear boxes for the Innlay Jeeps, the Senior General also presented bonus to them.

He also held a meeting at the factory where officials explained the production processes for the Light Truck Axle, Heavy Duty Truck and Innlay Jeep Axle and the Senior General gave instructions as necessary.

Afterwards, the Senior General and entourage inspected the

production of axles for Innlay Jeeps, presented bonus to the employees for their hard work in the production.

Earlier in the day, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla visited Shwe Nattaung Pagoda, a historical site of Shwe Taung Town in Bago Region, according to information released by the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo meets with Executive Director of the International Legal Foundation (ILF) Jennifer Smith in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Attorney-General receives ILF's Executive Director Jennifer Smith

UNION Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received Ms. Jennifer Smith, Executive Director of the International Legal Foundation (ILF), and delegation yesterday at his office in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed matters related to assistance by ILF and participation of the Union Attor-

ney-General's Office in the work in achieving Myanmar's adopting a legal aid system and legal aid assistance during case investigations and in carrying out the filing of lawsuit processes.

They also discussed matters related to bringing justice to all people, legal aid related cooperation among the govern-

ment's departmental organizations, trainings to be conducted and international practices to be studied.

Deputy Attorney-General U Win Myint and Director-General Dr. Thida Oo were also present at the meeting.—MNA ■

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)

Eleventh regular session of ...

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A motion on the Myanmar Telecommunication Corporation Bill

Then the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Secretary Dr. Myat Nyana Soe clarified on the report of the Bill Committee regarding the Myanmar Telecommunication Corporation bill.

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Thar Oo tabled a motion on the Myanmar Telecommunication Corporation Bill, which was to be approved in accordance with the amendments of the bill, and U Zaw Hein of Taninthayi Region constituency 7 supported the bill.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than sought the approval from the Hluttaw and announced that the Myanmar Telecommunication Corporation bill was approved.

Dr. Pyae Phyo of Ayeyawady Region constituency 7 discussed the motion. Although there has been the National Land Use Policy, it was of great importance to draw up the National Land Law aiming to bring about the sustainable development of the country.

He urged the Union Government that the National Land Use Policy would be under review in order to implement land management and national land use strategies while setting up procedures and frameworks in line with mid-term and long-term schemes. Regarding the motion, Hluttaw representatives

discussed the motion.

Daw May Than Nwe of Ayeyawady Region constituency 11 supported the motion, saying that there was a weak linkage between the National Land Use Committee and relevant ministries. Good coordination between them will yield better results for getting information and data and suggestion would be made to establish the National Land Use Committees in townships, districts and regions. It was needed to share extensive education programmes among the people, and it was right time for them to urge the Union Government and suitable time to set up the mid-term and long-term frameworks.

U Myo Win of Mon State constituency 8 took part in the discussion and saying it was of vital importance to make land use management while striving for enforcement of the land management system.

U Htay Oo of Yangon Region constituency 2, U San Myint of Ayeyawady Region constituency 3, U Htein Win of Ayeyawady Region constituency 4, Naw Hla Hla Soe of Yangon Region constituency 10 and U Zon Hle Htan of Chin State constituency 4 participated in the discussion.

The 19th-day meeting of the eleventh regular session of the Second Amyotha Hluttaw is scheduled to be held on 1st March, it was learnt. ■

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Joint Committee of constitutional amendment holds meeting

JOINT Committee on scrutinizing the second bill amending the 2008 Constitution held a meeting at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw building yesterday.

It was attended by U Khin Maung Win, Chairman of the Joint Committee on scrutinizing the second bill amending the 2008 Constitution and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Commit-

tee, U Zaw Min, Deputy Chairman of the Joint Committee on scrutinizing the second bill amending the 2008 Constitution and Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee, secretary, joint-secretary and members of the joint committee and officials of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Office.—MNA ■

(Translated by GNLM)



Joint Committee meeting of amending the 2008 Constitution in progress. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister U Kyaw Tin delivers Statement on Government's efforts in promoting and protecting human rights at the UN Human Rights Council

(Geneva, 26 February 2019)

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin attended the High Level Segment of the 40th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council held in Geneva from 25 to 27 February and delivered a Statement on 26 February 2019.

In his Statement, the Union Minister apprised the meeting of the importance of guiding principles to which the Human Rights Council should adhere to, progress and challenges in the efforts of Myanmar Government for peace and national reconciliation, development, promotion and protection of human rights, resolving the issues in Rakhine State and cooperation with the United Nations in promoting human rights.

At the meeting, he stressed that promotion and protection of human rights can be achieved through dialogue, constructive engagement and cooperation instead of confrontation and condemnation. Every independent mandate holder or mechanism created by the Council should strictly adhere to the principles of independence, impartiality and integrity. Everyone must also be held accountable for what they say or report.

The Union Minister underlined the need to recognize the primary responsibility of a sovereign state in realisation of human rights for its own people and to take into consideration of each nation's particular circumstances such as its own historical and cultural background, capacity constraints as well as other challenges and complexities facing the individual country.

The Union Minister apprised the meeting that the people of Myanmar have started to enjoy the greater freedom and democratic rights and there are visible improvements in health, education, and socio-economic sectors since the emergence of a democratically elected civilian government. They will be reinforced by the on-going implementation of the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan-MSDP. He also added that with a view to protecting the democratic rights of the people, a joint parliamentary committee has been formed by the ruling party to amend the undemocratic provisions of the Constitution.

With regard to peace and national reconciliation, the Union Minister further informed the Meeting of the successful holding of 3 sessions of the Union Peace Conference/21st Century Panglong Conference resulting in agreement on 51 basic principles to build a Democratic Federal Union. He also mentioned that ten EAOs have already signed the NCA and the Government is redoubling its efforts to bring all on board. The Union Minister also informed about the announcement of a four month cessation of its region wise military operations in Kachin and Shan States by the Tatmataw since 21 December 2018, and the recent outbreak of fightings in northern Rakhine State ignited by the attacks of AA insurgents that has even further complicated the situation and highlighted the urgent need to make the peace process a success. "Ending of armed conflicts will not only pave the way for development, but also bring an end to conflict-related violation of human rights", he said.

On the issue of Rakhine State, the Union Minister said that Myanmar is still facing numerous challenges in its delicate democratic transition which needs the continued support of the international community. Sadly, the world's attention is narrowly focused only on the negative aspects related to the issue in northern Rakhine State which was wrongfully portrayed as an issue of religious persecution by the massive media campaign launching against Myanmar.

He explained that it is neither an issue of religious persecution nor inter-religious conflict. But it is, in fact, a political and economic issue involving prolonged



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin.

cross-border illegal migration since colonial time, poverty and lack of rule of law and national security. Regardless of events of northern Rakhine State, Myanmar is a multi-religious country where different faiths including majority of Muslim population live in harmony throughout the country.

While sharing Myanmar's concern over the plight of all affected communities in Rakhine State due to the violence ignited by provocative coordinated attacks of ARSA against multiple security outposts in October 2016 and August 2017, the Union Minister pointed out that the seeds of fear sown by the ARSA led to massive displacement of people. He reminded that all unlawful violence committed by any side must be condemned.

He added that the Government is fully committed to find a sustainable solution that would lead to peace, stability and development for all people in Rakhine State. The Government is implementing a vast majority of the recommendations of the Kofi Annan Advisory Commission and working on an action plan to implement five priority areas covering issues of citizenship, freedom of movement, closure of IDP camps, education and health.

"The most pressing task today is to focus on nothing but commencing the repatriation process soonest to resolve the humanitarian situation" in Rakhine State, he said by reiterating Myanmar's readiness to receive the verified returnees in a voluntary, safe and dignified manner in accordance with the bilateral arrangements reached with Bangladesh in November 2017.

In order to create conducive environment for the returnees, the Union Minister explained that the Government is working not only with UNDP and UNHCR, but also with its ASEAN friends and regional partners, and also mobilizing funds from public, private and the people through UEHRD. Recently, the Rakhine State Investment Fair was held to generate job opportunities, income and long term development. He stressed, "Development is the best recipe for ending the communal conflicts."

On the other hand, Union Minister U Kyaw Tin reiterated Myanmar's firm position that the Government has categorically objected to the Fact Finding Mission (FFM) since its establishment, as well as its narrative-based report for a number of reasons including its mandate's exclusion of investigations on violations committed by ARSA, its full adherence to the stories of Muslim displaced persons while rejecting any contradicting evidence, ignorance of the reports revealing the massacres by the ARSA and its political motivation, and the conclusions of the report are politically motivated and not supported by credible evidences.

He also shared the information on the progress of the works of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (ICOE) and its Evidence Collection and Verification Team (ECVT).

He reaffirmed that the Government is willing and able to address the accountability issue. Hence, he reiterated Myanmar's strong rejection to any move to bring the issue of Rakhine State to international judicial system.

With regard to protecting and promoting human rights in Myanmar, he apprised the meeting of the significant steps taken by the Government, especially for its children, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. Myanmar has already ratified 4 international core human rights treaties, namely CRC, CEDAW, CRPD, and ICESCR and signed the OPAC—Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. This year, the Government has set a target to ratify the OPAC and to sign the ICCPR—International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Being a strong supporter for the UPR mechanism, Myanmar will be submitting the 3rd national report under the UPR process in 2020. The Government is taking steps to enact legislations including the new Child Rights Law, and draft laws to address the issues of hate speech as well as violence against women.

There have been a number of visits to Myanmar paid by the Special Envoy of the Secretary General, the Special Representative for Sexual Violence in Conflict, and the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflicts.

The Union Minister further informed the Meeting that the Government has established a National Committee in January to prevent the issue of 6 grave violations relating to the children and armed conflict. It will also set up a national committee and draw up a national action plan to implement the Joint Communiqué that Myanmar had signed with the Special Representative for Sexual Violence in Conflict last December. Also in the bilateral context, Myanmar is holding human rights dialogues with the European Union, Japan and the United States.

He pointed out that Myanmar has been unfairly targeted and disproportionately put under special scrutiny by multiple mechanisms of the UN despite those positive developments in the country.

He further explained the reasons for Myanmar's rejection to the UN resolutions for setting up the planned establishment of Independent Investigative Mechanism (IIM): it was established beyond the Human Rights Council's mandate and its Terms of References (TOR) is also very intrusive on the sovereignty of Myanmar; it would only serve political ambition of those who wish to exploit the Council for their political agenda; the funding arrangement which allow additional non-budgetary resources will severely affect independence and impartiality; and a more than 26 million US Dollar budget allocation and recruitment of 62 staff headed by an ASG to monitor a country through this mechanism would be wasting the scarce resources of the United Nations.

In conclusion, the Union Minister stressed that the Government is making every effort to further advance peace, democracy and development. Despite numerous challenges and constraints, Myanmar will do its best to take its primary responsibility to promote and protect the fundamental human rights of all people without losing sight of the country's future. The Government is only seeking for fairness in the approach of the international community in addressing the challenges. He also urged the Council to make careful examination of the complete and objective information before taking any important judgment or policy decision on issues at hand.

He conveyed his appreciation for the support of many friends and partners to Myanmar in various ways and welcomed their constructive cooperation in helping Myanmar resolve the complex and delicate issue.

Acknowledgement

SHAW Brothers Pictures International Co. Ltd from Hong Kong filmed some scenes from Line Walker-2 (Operation Midnight Shadow) in Yangon from 15 to 27 February, 2019

For granting permission for us to shoot the film, we delightfully express our thanks to the ministries concerned, Yangon Region Government, Yangon City Development Committee, Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee, Yangon Region Transport Authority, Yangon Region Police Force, Traffic Police and Hluttaw Representatives, authorities of Kyaukta-da, Botahtaung, Bahan and Thaketa townships, towns' elders, and to the public. Our special thank also goes to movie and video actors for their help in the filming, to Yangonians, drivers and responsible personnel of the YBS bus service for their understanding and cooperation when changing traffic routes, as well as to those who enjoyed watching the filming. We would also like to express our delight, in acknowledging that the cooperation and contribution of all are highly appreciated and will be remembered.

SHAW BROTHERS PICTURES INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

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To solve land confiscation issues, all need to be truthful

MYANMAR is an agro-based country, so farmers play a vital role in the agriculture sector of the country. The Union Government is committed to solving the issue of confiscated farmlands, in accordance with the law.

So far, 7,119 complaints have been received by the Central Committee, while only 3,168 have been resolved. More emphasis must be placed on resolving the remaining 3,951 complaints.

Meanwhile, to speed up resolving land matters that reflect upon the image of the country, the Office of the President reorganized the Central Committee for Scrutinizing Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands by issuing notification 21/2019 dated 5 February.

Committee chairmen are to conduct field visits to ensure there was no discrepancy between the assessment at the grass roots level and the situation on the ground.

the process.

There have been some weaknesses in the review and assessments of complaints and delays in the return of confiscated land to the original owners.

The authorities need to conduct a proper review of confiscated lands for the good of the nation and the public, and follow legal procedures without delay. Only then can confiscated farmlands be swiftly returned to their rightful owners.

Excess and unused lands returned as state-owned lands are to be used for the benefit of the people and, if not used, to be kept on record and maintained. Some lands released by the ministerial departments were not received by the former owner due to delays, or it was not clear who the former owner was.

To resolve such cases, committee chairmen are to conduct field visits to ensure there was no discrepancy between the assessment at the grass roots level and the situation on the ground.

Also, not everyone who applies to get land back are the rightful owners.

There are those who applied, even though they have no right to the land, resulting in rightful owners having more problems to solve. To overcome these problems, all need to be truthful.

Talks highlight Yunnan-Mandalay railway and other topics at China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Forum

By Aung Kyaw Kyaw, Myint Myint Cho

ONE of the main topics discussed at the recent China-Myanmar Economic Corridor Forum was constructing a railway linking between Yunnan Province in southwest China and Mandalay. The following are excerpts of interviews with participants of the forum related to this topic.

Mr Xie Guo Xiang (Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar)

Q: Could you tell us a summary of the ongoing economic cooperation negotiations carried out at the China-Myanmar border?

A: Border trade is an important project for China. We value it. That is why we are working closely with Myanmar to implement the economic zone there. The first category to carry out is the constructing the Muse-Shwe Li railway.

It's a large-scale project with many relevant departments from both China and Myanmar involved in it. It's not something we can accomplish immediately. By bringing the relevant departments from both countries to the economic corridor forum for discussion, it's a lot easier to work on cooperation as we can openly exchange our opinions. Plus, the Chinese embassy in Myanmar will also strive to accomplish this project.

Q: The success of the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor will be determined by the results of this forum. As such, to what degree did you achieve success in the forum's discussions?

A: This is the second meeting for the joint-committee on



Mr Xie Guo Xiang (Economic and Commercial Counsellor of the Chinese Embassy in Myanmar).

the economic corridor and the second forum as well, and we have seen numerous accomplishments on both fronts. We were able to get into deep discussions on the important project that both sides are concerned about. Myanmar will also list the Kyaukpadaung Special Economic Zone (SEZ) project and the China-Myanmar railway project under the economic corridor's processes for implementation.

These two projects will be given top priority because they are certain to improve the socioeconomic livelihood of both countries' inhabitants. Not only that, I believe they will also provide substantial support to the entire economic development of Myanmar. China will be pushing forward the companies on its side responsible for the two projects. In addition, we will also be trying for good results at the

second Belt and Road Initiative forum in April.

Q: Were there any difficulties discussing some topics and did you agree on anything?

A: There weren't any difficulties as both sides were keen on holding discussions in an open manner. I believe there won't be any difficulties in future discussions either.

Q: How will the Chinese government manage its investments?

A: China will put into consideration Myanmar's budget constraints. We will put the majority of our investment in these projects.

Q: How will the benefits from the projects be distributed when they succeed?

A: The projects are cooperation between China and Myanmar but the main players are the companies. This means we need to take our approach from a market economy perspective. We must also proceed with trade in line with set policies. When the projects succeed, the relevant organizations from both sides will receive their share of the benefits as outlined in the contract we will be signing. The companies will be receiving their share if profits are made but will also be accountable for losses incurred. Benefits will be distributed in accordance with contracts signed between the companies and the government. They will also have to bear taxes.

Q: Could you give us some comments on the forum?

A: China and Myanmar both wish to elucidate the economic corridor and that is why we have held the joint-committee meeting and economic corridor forum twice within six months. There have been various successes. I believe that once we put the projects into action there will be beneficial effects for both the two countries' economies and the people's socioeconomic livelihoods.

Q: Could you tell us how the China-Myanmar railway is being carried out?

A: The Muse-Mandalay railway project is an integral component for the economic corridor.

It will be built from scratch. We signed an MoU on 22 October 2018 to carry out a feasibility survey for the project. We formed working groups in December of the same year and began our procedures. The main thing we had to do was survey the terrain between Mandalay and Muse.

Q: How are the investments organized?

A: The investments can come in any form. First, we need to reassess if this is viable from a business perspective. We need to see how much development there is in the railway's vicinity. Then we need to consult the results before making any decisions. This project will be paving a new railway through the land so we need to evaluate to what degree the people along the trajectory will lose their land. Profits and benefits will be calculated much later. After all that, we will decide whether we will take a Government-to-Government route, or PPP, or acquiring a government loan.

Q: How will the results of the project be shared?

A: Like I said before, it depends on which direction we will be taking. If we take the PPP route then Myanmar Railways - MR will be sharing duties and benefits with another company. If we take the G2G route then MR will be spearheading the project based on a loan. This project will be costing billions, so we need to make careful, well-informed decisions.

Q: Which company will MR be partnering with?

A: Currently, China Railway Group Limited (CREC) is conducting the surveys and is bearing the costs for that as well. Once we get to the construction phase, we will be calling an open tender and the winning company will be responsible for the construction.

Q: Do you have any plans to resolve complications that may arise during the project's implementation?

A: The project is starting a new venture so there are bound to be numerous challenges. The biggest issue could be handling compensation for the local resi-



U Aung Win (General Manager, Myanmar Railways)

dents along the projected route of the railway. Also, about 155 kilometres of the entire 431 km-railway route will be passing through tunnels and we will be needing technological assistance from China. Both sides will need to cooperate closely on this.

Q: Do you have any opinions or comments regarding the project?

A: This Muse-Mandalay railway project is important for all of Myanmar. The main objective of the project is to facilitate faster supply chain transportation between Mandalay and Muse. About 40 per cent of our agricultural products are shipped to China. It will also improve passenger transportation and products from across Myanmar can be exported directly from Mandalay.

Q: Is there an estimated time period for the project?

A: It will take anywhere from 3 to 5 years to complete. We can only make a close estimate after we get the results from the survey and finalize designs.

Q: How will this project be explained to the public?

A: The project is still in its early phases. We're initially collecting comments from relevant ministry departments. We're also requesting feedback from state and regional governments. Officials will also be meeting with the local residents during the survey to carefully explain to them about the project. We will explain everything in detail to the public when we have a finalized report from the surveys.

(Translated by Pen Dali)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Notification 32/2019
8th Waning of Tabodwe 1380 ME
(27 February 2019)

Transitional period set for Revenue Appellate Tribunal

TO ensure a smooth transition and for conducting necessary preparations and coordination works during the Revenue Appellate Tribunal's implementation period, the transitional period of the Revenue Appellate Tribunal has been designated from 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2020, in accordance with Section 40 of the Revenue Appellate Tribunal Act.

Sd/ Win Myint
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

National Water Resources Committee (NWRC)
World Water Day 2019 "Leaving No One Behind"
Scientific Conference
WORLD WATER DAY
5th March, 2019
MICC II, Nay Pyi Taw

Myanmar Daily Weather Report
(Issued at 7:00 pm Wednesday 27 February 2019)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is cloudy over the Southwest Bay and a few cloud to partly cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF 28 February 2019: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin and Chin states, scattered in Lower Sagaing Region and Northern Shan state, isolated in Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi regions, (Southern and Eastern) Shan State. Degree of certainty is (80%). Weather will be generally fair in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions and partly cloudy in the remaining regions and states.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (3 - 5) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of scattered to fairly widespread rain or thundershowers in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 February 2019: Partly cloudy.

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 February 2019: Generally fair weather.

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 28 February 2019: Partly cloudy.

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This Muse-Mandalay railway project is important for all of Myanmar. The main objective of the project is to facilitate faster supply chain transportation between Mandalay and Muse.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Thai authorities send 12 undocumented migrant workers back to Myanmar

THE Thai authorities sent 12 illegal migrant workers back to Myanmar via Thai-Myanmar No.2 Friendship Bridge on 27 February at 11 am.

The workers' border passes were found to have expired and they were not holding official travel documents.

Currently, the Township General Administration Department, Immigration and Population Department, Anti-trafficking in Person Division of Myanmar Police Force, Labour Department, Caring and Negotiating Committee for Myanmar Citizens in Mae Sai, Thailand (CNCMC) are discussing the arrangements to send the illegal migrant workers back home safely.

Most of the migrant



Thai authorities, Myanmar officials and migrant workers seen in front of Immigration Department.

PHOTO: SAI AUNG ZAW LIN

workers are from Taninthayi, Ayeyawady, Yangon and Bago regions, and Mon and Rakhine states. A total of 386 illegal

migrants workers including 240 male, 132 female and 14 children have been officially handed over to the Myanmar

authorities between 1 January and 27 February.—Sai Aung Zaw Lin

(Translated by Hay Mar)

International agriculture, livestock and industry expo planned

By Aye Yamone

AN international agriculture, livestock and industry expo will be held at the Mandalay Convention Center in Mandalay from 30 May to 3 June, according to Silver Sea International Ltd, the event's organizers.

The expo is being organized with the aim of showcasing machines, seeds, species, medicines, and technology in the agricultural and livestock sectors, according to the press conference held at the Lotte Hotel in Yangon on 26 February.

"We are making arrangements to launch the expo. Sixteen Chinese companies will showcase agricultural machinery, edible oil mills, rice mills, as well as fertilizers and pesticides. Singapore, India, and Turkey will also display agricultural and livestock machines. We are making arrangements for 120 showrooms for international companies and 90 showrooms for local companies," said U Zarni, the managing director of Silver Sea International Ltd.

"We have also invited entrepreneurs from Thailand, Viet

Nam, and South Korea to attend the international expo," he said.

At the expo, industrial machinery, electrical machines, and other packaging machines will be displayed for agri-based industries.

"The 4th Mandalay International Agricultural and Livestock Expo will be held in conjunction with the 3rd Industrial and Electricity Expo. This expo will serve as a meeting place for machine manufacturing companies and local users," said Dr. Kyaw Htin, the vice chairman of the Myanmar

Livestock Federation.

The agricultural, livestock, and industry expo will be held along with the Myanmar Poultry Conference 2019. The conference will include seminars on Myanmar farming, pharmaceutical development, organic vegetables and fruit production, development of agri-based industries, and showcase local industrial products, feature a production expo and sale promotion, and an exhibition of robotic innovations by students.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Japan to invest in livestock, fisheries sector

By Aye Yamone

JAPANESE entrepreneurs have expressed their interest in investing in Myanmar's livestock and fisheries sector, said Dr. Aung Thu, the Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

Japanese entrepreneurs met with the Union Minister at the Rakhine State Investment Fair 2019, which was held on the Ngapali Beach in Rakhine State from 21 to 23 February.

"Most of the Japanese entrepreneurs I met at the fair were interested in our country's livestock and fisheries sector. Japan's second- and third-largest companies have expressed an

intention to make large investments in Myanmar's livestock and fisheries sector. Local entrepreneurs must, therefore, adapt so they can cope with intense competition from new entrants from abroad," said Dr. Aung Thu at a seminar on developing the fish farming industry, which was held on 24 February at the Myanmar Fisheries Federation in Yangon.

To ensure the sustainable development of the fish farming industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation needs to support local entrepreneurs who are breeding fish on a commercial scale and have made a huge capital investment. The ministry also needs to think

of local entrepreneurs who are engaged in fish farming on a manageable scale.

Moreover, the government needs to formulate a policy for fish farming, in addition to adoption of appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures, besides providing technical assistance.

"We did not attend the meeting with investors because we didn't receive an invitation. Most of the Japanese prefer to eat fish, and so, they have an enormous fish and prawn market in their country. That's why we will welcome Japanese businessmen if they decide to invest in Myanmar's livestock and fisheries sector. We have been holding several discussions with

Japanese businessmen these days. We will help them as much as possible," said U Win Kyaing, the general secretary of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

The Fisheries Department has been conducting training courses and issuing Good Aquaculture Practices (GAQP) certificates to local farmers.

Although the Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation had given priority to quantity over quality earlier, the focus has now shifted to quality over quantity.

"We will take some time to be able to compete in the international market," said Dr. Aung Thu.

(Translated by Hay Mar)

USD 150 mln of river catfish to be exported annually



Freshwater catfishes are seen at a small scale fish farm. PHOTO: MYINT OO (MYEIK)

By Aye Yamone

A river catfish farming project, to be built on over 900 acres of land in Pantanaw Township, Ayeyawady Region, will breed river catfish and expects to export US\$ 150 million worth of fish annually, businessmen said Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF).

The Global Earth Public Co.Ltd will invite all businessmen to invest in the river catfish farming project. The initial investment for the project will be US\$ 200 million.

“We will implement the project on over 900 acres of land in the trial phase. We have planned to invest \$ 200 million in the project initially. We will breed about 150,000 tons of river catfish species annually for export. Currently, we have already

collected 60 per cent of river catfish species. We will conduct fish hatching throughout the year,” said U Htay Myint, chairman of MFF.

The Permanent Secretary and the officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, on behalf of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), inspected the land on which the project will be built to seek to determine its environmental impact. Upon completion of the inspection, and after the ministry’s submission of its report to MIC, permission was granted in the first week of January, 2019.

The fish feeding factories and cold storage facilities will also be build as part of the catfish project. Currently, the factories and the facilities are under construction. Business-

men have been invited to invest in the fish farming project.

“We will invite the shareholders in two phases. We can create thousands of job opportunities for the local people because we need a lot of workers in fish hatching, the feed factory and production. It will take eight months for the factories to be operational at full capacity,” said Dr. Toe Nanda Tin, the vice chairperson of MFF.

Concerning the purchase of shares in the fish farming project, those who are being engaged in the fish farming sector might not have a problem in making decisions to buy shares, but those businessmen who are outside the fish farming sector will have difficulties making decisions before the factories and facilities are fully operational. (Translated by Hay Mar)

Weekly cattle exports to China resume

WEEKLY cattle exports to China through the Sino-Myanmar border gates began again on 19 February, according to Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

Chinese firms and Mandalay Region Cattle Exporters Association reached agreement on the purchase of 1,000 heads of cattle every week, with exports resuming on 19 February.

“The first group is only 500 heads of cattle. This is business to business trade. It would be more successful if there is a government to government agreement”, U Soe Naing, chair

of Cattle Exporters Association, told the Agriculture and Market Information Agency.

The cattle were priced at K2.15 million per head, without differentiating the size of the cattle in the first group of trading. At present, Chinese firms have to make deposits in advance to ensure the smooth flow of the trade.

Currently, only members of Mandalay Region Cattle Exporters Association are entitled to join this weekly export.

The volume of cattle exports to China was on the decline, owing to the suspension of

trade during the Chinese New Year holiday, Mandalay Cattle exporters said.

Livestock exports are forecast to rise, as trading of livestock was allowed beginning in late 2017. Myanmar is exploring new export markets for cattle.

The exported cattle are more than five years old and include vaccination certificates, health certificates and farming registration certificates According to the 2018 cattle census, there are 11.5 million heads of cattle in the country. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Domestic investments worth over K736.67 bln pull into the country in current fiscal

BETWEEN 1 October, 2018 and 20 February, 2019 in the current fiscal year, domestic investments made by Myanmar citizens reached K736.67 billion and US\$251.18 million, including expansion of capital by existing enterprises, according to the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). There are 69 local enterprises permitted to invest in various sectors during the period Oct-Feb, with estimated capital of over K575.35 billion and \$212.088 million.

During this period, investments flow into real estate, manufacturing, hotels and tourism, construction, industrial estate energy, mining, livestock and fisheries, agriculture and other service sectors, according to figures from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

At a meeting on 20 February, 3 domestic enterprises with an estimated combined capital of K257.9 billion and US\$110.8 million, received endorsements by Yangon, Rakhine and Kayah investment committees. They will be investing in manufacturing and hotel sectors, while creating over 470 jobs.

According to the Myanmar Investment Law, Region and State-Level investment committees are authorised to grant endorsements of an investment proposal with capital of not more than \$5 million (K6,000 million), with an aim to encourage the verification process of investment projects. Some projects no longer need Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) approval, while some businesses that are strategic significance to the government require an MIC permit. Also, those businesses that have large capital investments exceeding \$5 million, and might offer a possible impact on the environment and local community, need to be approved by a DICA proposal assessment team. These projects include those involved with State-owned land, or are designated by the Government. Having introduced a fast-track method to set up a business in Myanmar, investors can apply to the MIC or the State and Regional investment committee for an endorsement of an investment proposal, depending on business types. —GNLM (Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Export of Kayah State kitchen crops to Thailand on the rise

EXPORT of kitchen crops, such as corn, dried chilli and onions to Thailand is rising, according to the Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization.

“We export dried chilli to Thailand and, in return, spices and detergent powder are imported into the country. Dried chilli exports to Thailand are successful on account of its good quality. Additionally, Thai merchants also like corn grown in Kayah State, as the state adopted better drying practices”, said a merchant.

At present, 64,000 kilograms of dried chilli, 1,000 kilograms of onions and 1,000 tons of corn were exported to Thailand within one week. Kayah State lacks the ability to explore markets. The market is likely to grow if

the region can cooperate with marketing businesses.

“The Kayah State needs markets, as domestic consumption is less. If contract farming can be created in the region, the growers will do well”, said U Thein Myint, of the Kayah State Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The agriculture sector attracts the largest investments in Kayah State, at 24.43 per cent. Other businesses are involved in trading, construction, social, administration and manufacturing.

The prevailing market prices are K5,500 per viss (1.6 kg) for dried chilli, K750 per viss for onion and K400-520 per viss for dried corn. —GNLM

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

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Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital opens one stop crisis center for gender-based violence

A One Stop Crisis Center (OSCC) for Gender Based Violence was opened at Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed) yesterday.

Union Minister for Health and Sports, Dr. Myint Htwe, addressed the opening ceremony. He said the center will provide counselling services and proper treatment to victims of gender-based violence, and conduct awareness raising initiatives to prevent them from occurring.

According to the Myanmar Demographic and Health Survey (2015-2016), one in seven females have suffered a form of domestic violence, one in

five married women suffered domestic violence from their husbands, and only 22 per cent of victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse have sought help.

The Union Minister, Deputy Minister Dr. Mya Lay Sein, Chairman Dr. San Shwe Win of the Pyithu Hluttaw Health and Sports Development Committee, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Tin Tun, permanent secretaries Prof. Dr. Thet Khine Win and Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw, and the hospital's head physician Dr. Pa Pa cut ribbons to formally open the OSCC. —MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe and officials cut ribbons to open the One Stop Crisis Center for gender-based violence in Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar Investment Commission's work in Dec 2018 and Jan 2019

MYANMAR Investment Commission is permitting local and foreign investments, according to Myanmar Investment Law.

Myanmar Investment Commission had permitted in December 2018 total foreign investment, including increased investment, valued at US\$333.728 million, and in January 2019 total foreign investment, including increased investment, valued at US\$454.374 million.

Foreign investments permitted during December of 2018 and January 2019 are as follows:

Sr.	Sector	December 2018		January 2019	
		No. of investments	Capital US\$ million	No. of investments	Capital US\$ million
1	Transportation and communications sector	1	243.433*		149.890
2	Industrial sector	28	89.495*	17	167.160*
3	Electricity sector	-	-	1	28.000
4	Housing and building construction sector	-	-	1	54.133
5	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	-	-	2	4.191
6	Other service sector	-	0.800*	2	51.000
Total		29	333.728	23	454.374

*Increase in the investment was included in the investment amount.

Myanmar Investment Commission had permitted a total Myanmar national investment totals K 58919.330 million in December of 2018 and a total Myanmar national investment totals Ks 117420.292 million in January of 2019. Myanmar national investment permitted during January and December of 2018 are as follow.

Sr.	Sector	December 2018		January 2019	
		No. of investments	Capital Kyat million	No. of investments	Capital Kyat million
1	Housing and building construction sector	-	-	1	1467.500
2	Industrial sector	7	11225.090*	7	24264.525*
3	Hotel and tourism sector	3	5350.000	2	76427.451*
4	Mining sector	-	-	1	5799.500
5	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	2	200.000	-	-

6	Electricity sector	1	10752.000	-	-
7	Other service sector	-	31392.240*	3	9461.316
Total		13	58919.330	14	117420.292

*Increase in the investment was included in the investment amount.

Increased number of jobs created by foreign investment during December of 2018 and January of 2019 are as follow.

Sr.	Sector	No. of jobs created for local workers	
		December In November 2018	In January 2019
1	Oil and Natural Gas sector	-	102*
2	Agriculture sector	-	755
3	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	-	567
4	Industrial sector	27640*	57159*
5	Electricity sector	-	49
6	Transport and communication sector	502*	727*
7	Hotels and Tourism sector	-	53
8	Housing and building construction sector	-	51
9	Other service sector	-	455
Total		28142	59918

Increased number of jobs created by Myanmar nationals investment during December of 2018 and January of 2019 are as follow.

Sr.	Sector	No. of jobs created for local workers	
		December 2018	January 2019
1	Electricity sector	55	-
2	Mining sector	-	83
3	Industrial sector	742	677
4	Hotels and Tourism sector	197	138
5	Animal husbandry and fishery sector	2445	-
6	Housing and building construction sector	-	40
	Other service sector	-	74
Total		3439	1012

Yangon sets Date for Municipal Election Campaign on 28th February

THE candidates of Yangon City Development Committee election will have their campaign periods from February 28 to March 31, and the election will be held on 31st March, according to the Public Relation and Information Department of the YCDC.

The candidates will have to conduct their campaigns in designated areas, and there are six constituencies in this

election, it was learnt. The constituency (1) includes South Okkalapa, North Okkalapa and Thingangyun Townships. The constituency (2) are comprised of Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (North), Dagon Myothit (East) and Dagon Myothit (Seikkan) Townships. The constituency (3) includes Kyimyidine, Sanchaung, Seikkan, Dagon, Pabedan, Bahan, Latha, Lanmadaw, Ahlone,

Tamway, Kamayut, and Yankin Townships. The constituency (4) includes Kyauktada, Dawbon, Pazundaung, Botahtaung, Mingala Taungnyut, Dala, Takata and Seikkyi Kanaungto Townships. The constituency (5) includes Hlaingtharya and Insein. The constituency (6) takes up Mayangon, Hlaing, Mingalrdon and Shwepyitha.

Each voter will have

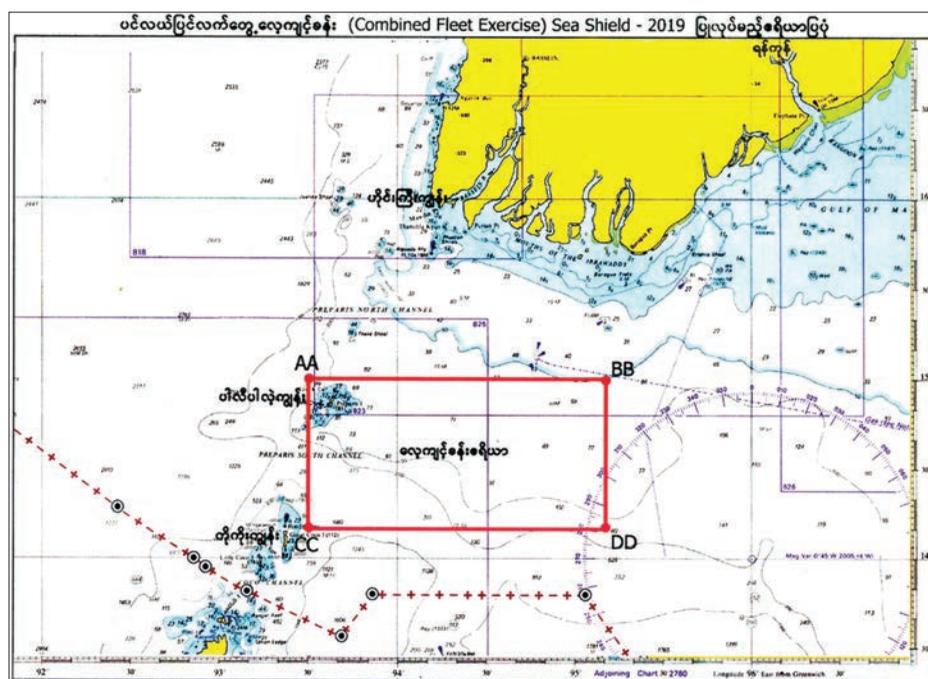
to cast four ballots, including one vote for member of YCDC, one for Chairman of the Township Development Committee-TDC, and one for member 1 and 2 of the TDC. The list of the eligible voter will be announced on the notice boards of the branch offices of the Election Commission, starting from 27 February to 5 March.—MNA

(Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Warning issued for combined fleet exercise in Coco Island

THE aircrafts and helicopters have been warned against flying under an altitude of 15,000 feet above the sea level, and the ships, big and small, cargo motorized boat, fishing vessels and motorized sampams have also been warned for their safety against cruising, anchoring, fishing and deploying fishing equipment and apparatus within the five-mile radius of the undermentioned areas where the combined fleet manoeuvres are taking place for the period between March 3rd and 18th.

The area has four points—AA, BB, CC and DD where AA is between North Latitude 15 degree 00 minutes and East Lon-



gitude 93° 30', BB is between North Latitude 15° 00' and East Longitude 95° 10', CC is between North Latitude 14° 10'

and East Longitude 93° 10' and DD is between North Latitude 14° 10' and East Longitude 95° 10', according to the Office of

the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services.—MNA

(Translated by GNLM)

Myanmar film reps discuss future cooperation with Hong Kong movie company

THE Film Development Centre held a meeting to promote Myanmar's film industry and increase cooperation yesterday.

A delegation led by

Academy Director Zaw Myint Oo, joint-secretary 1 of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization (MMPO), and a delegation led by Director Mr. Jazz Boon from Shaw

Brothers Pictures International Ltd. attended the meeting. They discussed Myanmar's contribution during Line Walker-2's filming, the hospitality of Yan-

gon residents, and future collaborations with MMPO.

The Hong Kong action film, Line Walker-2, was filmed in Yangon from 15 to 26 February and will continue shooting scenes in Spain.—MNA

(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo)



Myanmar film industry delegates and representatives of Shaw Brothers Pictures International Ltd. pose for a photo at the Film Development Centre. PHOTO: MNA

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Reg.No.4/15173/2019

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Surgical and medical apparatus and instruments, in particular endoscopes for medical purposes and parts thereof; orthopedic articles; suture materials; test and check apparatus and instruments for the aforesaid apparatus and instruments; safe keeping and transport receptacles adapted to the aforesaid apparatus and instruments; suction and irrigation apparatus for medical applications; high-frequency voltage generators for surgical applications; ultrasonic apparatus and instruments for medical applications; medical imaging apparatus; diagnostic imaging apparatus for medical use; all the aforementioned goods not in ophthalmics field. (Int' Class 10); and

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For **KARL STORZ SE & Co. KG.**
C/o **Polaris Partners Myanmar Co. Ltd.,**
Unit 19-10, Sule Square Office Tower, Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
info@polaris.com.mm
Dated 28 February 2019

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (009N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. (009N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28-02-2019 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING
LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

ပိုးသတ်ဆေးဖြန့်ဖြူးသူ ပြောင်းလဲခြင်းအတွက် ကြေငြာခြင်း

Zibo Nab Agrochemicals Limited သည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ပိုးသတ်ဆေးမှတ်ပုံတင်အဖွဲ့တွင် မှတ်ပုံတင်ရရှိထားသော အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ ပိုးသတ်ဆေး (၁) မျိုးကို မူလဖြန့်ဖြူးသူ Topagri Myanmar Co., Ltd မှ Myanmar Shwe Thein Co., Ltd သို့ လွှဲပြောင်းဖြန့်ဖြူးမည်ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ကန့်ကွက်ရန်ရှိပါက ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူး၊ သီးနှံကာကွယ်ရေးဌာနခွဲ၊ အနောက်ကြို့၊ ကုန်း၊ အင်းစိန်မြို့သို့ ကြေငြာသည့်နေ့မှ (၁၄) ရက်အတွင်း ကန့်ကွက်နိုင်ပါကြောင်း အသိပေးကြေငြာ အပ်ပါသည်။

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Topagri Myanmar Co., Ltd Ph-0942111797

Japan Gov't, five UN agencies sign Grant Aid to Myanmar

AMBASSADOR of Japan Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, and the representatives of five UN agencies signed the Exchange of Notes regarding grant assistance projects for Myanmar on 26 February 2019 in Nay Pyi Taw, as part of the following grant assistance package of 4.2 billion Yen (approx. US\$37.4 million) provided to help improve the humanitarian and development situation in Rakhine State, Kachin State and northern part of Shan State.

UN-Habitat had signed its Exchange of Notes with the Government of Japan separately on 19 February.

The project for responding to the humanitarian situation in Rakhine State, Kachin State and northern part of Shan State with total grant of 2.2 billion Yen (approx. US\$19.6 million) intends to provide, through World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), humanitarian assistance such as food distribution (helping a total of 300,000 beneficiaries), child education (reaching a total of 40,000 children) and mobile clinic services (for a total of 534,500



Japanese Ambassador Mr. Ichiro Maruyama, representatives of five UN agencies, and Myanmar officials pose for a photo at the formal signing of Exchange of Notes regarding grant assistance projects for Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

women) to the affected people and communities in Rakhine State, Kachin State and northern part of Shan State.

The Project for Humanitarian and Development Assistance in Rakhine State with total grant of 1.5 billion Yen (Approx. US\$13.4 million) came after the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP) and the Myanmar Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding In June 2018 to support the return of displaced persons from Bangladesh.

This project builds on their work so far, and aims to provide, through the UNHCR and the UNDP, humanitarian and development assistance, including the distribution of commodity

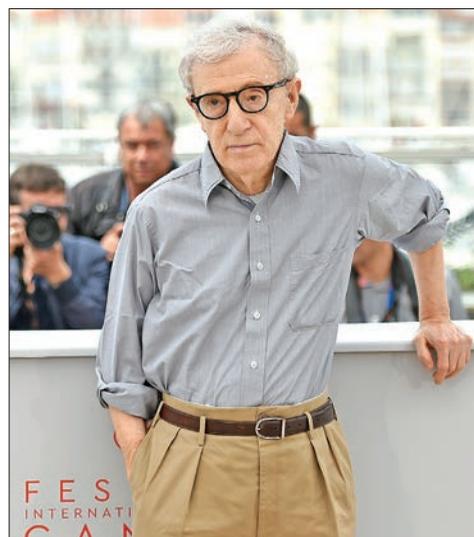
goods to IDPs who live in camps (about 110,000 beneficiaries), provision of vocational training for women in agriculture etc. (about 750 beneficiaries), and the restoration of existing shelters.

The project with total grant: 0.54 billion Yen (Approx. US\$ 4.8 million) of supporting settlements in Rakhine State includes reconstruction of houses and

smallscale Community Infrastructures for Returnees and Displaced People.

This project aims to prepare for and implement a community-driven, owner-led rebuilding of settlements for returning refugees in Northern Rakhine or for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in the camps in Central Rakhine.—GNLM

Woody Allen to film in Spain this summer: producer



US director Woody Allen. **PHOTO: AFP**

MADRID (Spain)—US director Woody Allen plans to film in Spain's Basque region this summer, the production company Mediapro and a Spanish source told AFP on Tuesday.

"Mediapro will produce the new Woody Allen film," a company spokesperson said, before adding: "The project is in an initial phase, we cannot therefore provide details." A well-informed source told AFP that Allen, 83, would work in San Sebastian, capital of the Spain's northwest Basque region. The Basque daily El Diario Vasco reported meanwhile that an advance team had been spotted in the city.

The new Spanish project continued the US film director's cinematic love affair

with major European cities.

In 2008, Allen released "Vicky Cristina Barcelona", which was set in the Catalan capital and was also financed by Mediapro.

The company also produced Allen's 2011 film "Midnight in Paris".

Other Allen films have been set in Rome and London.

Earlier this month Allen filed a \$68 million suit against Amazon for breach of contract, accusing the streaming giant of cancelling a film deal because of a "baseless" decades-old allegation that he sexually abused his adopted daughter.

The film in question "A Rainy Day in New York". has been completed but not released.—AFP ■

Hit song 'Despacito' breaks YouTube record with six billion views

PARIS (France)—The mega-hit "Despacito" by the Puerto Rican singer Luis Fonsi has become the most watched video ever on YouTube with more than six billion views, the Google-owned service said on Tuesday. The video, first released in January 2017 by Fonsi and Puerto Rican rapper Daddy Yankee, already holds the record for the fastest two billion, three billion and four billion views (272 days).

Fonsi's Spanish-language hit, whose English title is "Slowly", has had nearly two billion views more than its nearest challenger, "Shape of You", by the British singer Ed Sheeran. The South Korean singer Psy was the first to cross the two-billion-views barrier on the platform with his "Gangnam Style" in 2012, which also set off a dance craze. Psy is now fifth in the YouTube charts with 3.3 billion views.—AFP ■

Shakira to be questioned in June over alleged tax fraud

BARCELONA (Spain)—Colombian superstar Shakira will be questioned by a court near Barcelona on June 12 for allegedly evading 14.5 million euros (\$16.5 million) in taxes, a Spanish court said on Tuesday.

In a statement, the high court of Catalonia, where the singer lives with her partner, FC Barcelona footballer Gerard Pique, said she had been summoned to appear before a judge in Esplugues de Llobregat.

The 42-year-old is suspected of not paying taxes in Spain despite being a res-

ident between 2011 and 2014, according to prosecutors.

The case only covers the period from 2012 to 2014, however, as the timeframe to prosecute alleged tax offences in 2011 has expired.

In a relationship since 2011 Pique, with whom she has two sons, Shakira transferred her official residency to Spain in 2015. Until then, it was in the Bahamas.

But a spokesman for prosecutors in Barcelona told AFP last year that this didn't "match reality" with her children

and partner in Barcelona.

Shakira's representatives insist that until 2014 she earned most of her money in international tours and didn't live more than six months a year in Spain—a prerequisite to be an official tax-paying resident in the country.

With her mix of Latin and Arabic rhythms and rock influences, Shakira is one of the biggest stars from Latin America, scoring major global hits with songs such as "Hips Don't Lie" and "Whenever, Wherever."—AFP ■

New US antitrust task force could unwind tech mergers



Federal Trade Commission chairman Joseph Simons has created a task force to study competition in the tech sector which will look at potentially unwinding some mergers and acquisitions that have already taken place. **PHOTO: AFP**

WASHINGTON (United States)—A US regulator on Tuesday announced the launch of an antitrust task force to focus on competition in the tech sector and to consider challenging mergers and tie-ups retroactively. The Federal Trade Commission announcement comes amid increasing concerns in the US and elsewhere about dominant tech platforms such as Google, Facebook and Amazon. The FTC declined to name any specific companies or deals it would look at, but said it would consider reviews of tie-ups that have already been completed, with an eye toward seeking an unwinding or divestment.

The agency will consider “the full panoply of remedies” which could include breakups or spinoffs to address “competitive

harm,” said Bruce Hoffman, head of the FTC’s competition bureau, in a conference call with reporters. Hoffman declined to say whether the commission would seek a review of Facebook’s acquisition of rival social network Instagram.

The team will include 17 staff attorneys and will pay special attention to online advertising, social networking, mobile operating systems and apps and platform businesses, according to an FTC statement. “Technology markets, which are rapidly evolving and touch so many other sectors of the economy, raise distinct challenges for antitrust enforcement,” Hoffman said in the statement.

“By centralizing our expertise and attention, the new task force will

be able to focus on these markets exclusively — ensuring they are operating pursuant to the antitrust laws, and taking action where they are not.”

The FTC move suggests a different tack for the agency, which in 2013 shut down an investigation of Google’s dominance in online search and advertising as European enforcers stepped up their probe of the tech giant. FTC chairman Joe Simons said he called for a task force after a series of hearings on antitrust enforcement. “As I’ve noted in the past, it makes sense for us to closely examine technology markets to ensure consumers benefit from free and fair competition,” Simons said in the statement. “The technology task force is the next step in that effort.”—AFP ■

Obituary

Dr. Katherine Ba-Thike (69 years)

Dr. Katherine Ba-Thike, retired Scientist (W.H.O. Geneva), beloved wife of Dr. Rai Mra, mother of Daw Mra Kay Thi—U Yar Zar Tun, U Min Zaw Mra, U Tun Zaw Mra—Daw May Thet Han, grandmother of Thutti Mra Tun, Nayyown Mra Tun, Hpone Nanda Mra, passed away on 27 February, 2019 at 9:35 a.m. at her home at 19 Myitzu Road, Parami Yeiktha, Yankin Township, Yangon. Funeral will be on 1 March, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at Yayway cemetery.

China launches research on blood control target among diabetics patients

CHONGQING—China on Sunday launched a five-year medical research program on the blood pressure control target for adults with type 2 diabetes to reduce cardiovascular and death risks. Over 200 research centres across the country will participate in the programme, launched in Chongqing in southwest China.

Researchers will randomly compare clinical trials of 12,000 type 2 diabetic patients to find the optimal blood pressure control target, said Ning Guang, a Chinese Academy of Engineering academician and research

initiator. “We know that lowering blood pressure is critical for the treatment of diabetes, but it is still not clear how much to reduce it,” Ning said, noting that internationally, there is no standard anti-hypertension target.

Statistics show that China has 114 million adult diabetic patients, with more than half suffering from combined hypertension. Compared with those who have no elevated blood pressure, they have higher risks of myocardial infarction, stroke, as well as eyeground, renal and neurological complications.—Xinhua ■

Neanderthals walk upright with similar spines as modern humans: study

WASHINGTON—A study published on Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* showed that one of the modern human’s close relatives in prehistoric times had double S-shaped spine similar to modern humans.

Researchers from University of Zurich reconstructed in the computer the pelvis and spine of a very well-preserved Neanderthal skeleton found in France and found that

the Neanderthals had a curved lumbar region and neck, just like the humans of today. The Neanderthals were previously depicted as having straight spines and poor posture, thus only able to walk partially upright.

They found that the Neanderthals’ sacrum was positioned in the same way as in modern humans, suggesting that they had a lumbar region with a well-developed curvature.

The spinal curvature was even more pronounced

by putting together the individual lumbar and cervical vertebrae, according to the researchers. Also, the wear marks in the hip joint of the skeleton showed that the Neanderthals had an upright posture. “On the whole, there is hardly any evidence that would point to Neanderthals having a fundamentally different anatomy,” said the paper’s co-author Martin Haeusler, a specialist in evolutionary medicine at University of Zurich.—Xinhua ■

Arianespace CEO confirms Soyuz ready for blastoff

PARIS — Russia’s Soyuz-ST-B carrier rocket has completed all necessary checks and has been cleared for the February 27 launch to put first OneWeb satellites into orbit, Arianespace CEO Stephane Israel said in a Twitter post on Tuesday.

“Soyuz is approved for flight! Today’s launch readiness review cleared the medium-lift workhorse for tomorrow’s liftoff with the first six satellites in

OneWeb’s constellation,” he said.

The launch is scheduled to take place at 18:37 local time (28 February, 00:37 Moscow time), from the Kourou Spaceport in French Guiana.

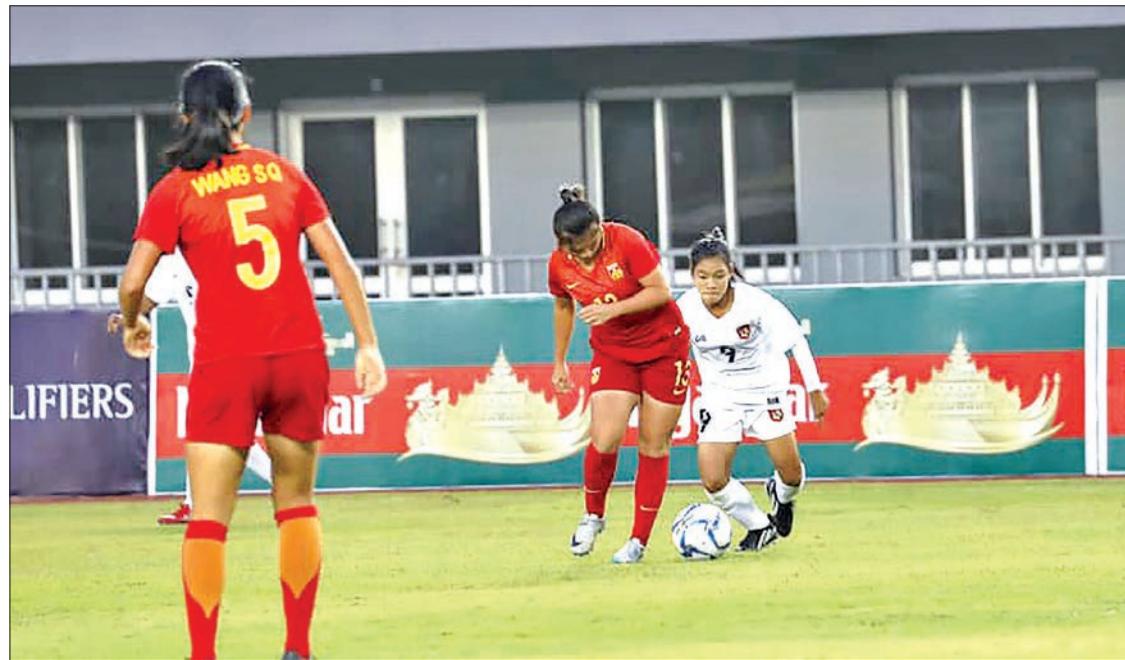
The blastoff, initially scheduled for 19 February, was postponed until 26 February following the discovery of a micro-crack in the Fregat booster, which was fixed by Roscosmos engineers on site.

However, OneWeb founder and executive chairman Greg Wyler announced shortly after that the launch would be put off for at least one day to review data about the recent Soyuz-2.1b launch from the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan, during which non-nominal third-stage behavior was detected. Despite the glitches, the mission to put Egypt’s Egypt-Sat-A satellite into orbit was successful.—Tass ■



The launch is scheduled to take place at 18:37 local time (28 February, 00:37 Moscow time), from the Kourou Spaceport in French Guiana. **PHOTO: TASS**

China defeats Myanmar in AFC U-16 Women's championship qualifier



Myanmar's attacker Swe Mar Aung (white) vies with a Chinese team defender (red) for the ball at yesterday's AFC U-16 Women's championship qualifier at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay. **PHOTO: AFC**

CHINA'S U-16 women's football team trounced Myanmar's U-16 women football team 5-0 at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay yesterday.

The win for the Chinese team was also dependent upon its star, Jiang Chenjing, who scored a hat-trick for her team.

Myanmar lined up with Keeper Khin Myat Moe, Sue Pyae Pyae Kyaw, Kay Kay, Zin Mar Htwe, Saung Hin Phwe, Phyu Phyu Win, May Thet Mon Myint, Pont Pont Pyae Maung, Win Win, Captain Myat Noe Khin and Swe Mar Aung.

As China women's national football team remains the football power house team in Asia, the team dominated over the Myanmar

team from the start.

Myanmar U-16 women's football team tried their best from the start, taking care of their defense, as the Chinese girls were strong and very fast in their attack, with accurate passing and delivering of the football, including with long passes.

The Chinese scored an opening goal at the 11 minute mark, by the young Chinese player, Shi Xiaomin.

Though the Myanmar girls prepared to fight back for the equalizer, there were some differences in football skills, and it was China who scored another three consecutive goals at the 17, 20 and 23 minute marks, with its player Jiang Chenjing scoring

a hat-trick maker in the match.

China led the first half 4-0.

Both teams changed tactics in the second half.

Myanmar again tried to close the gap, but it was China and Dai Xinyao who scored the fifth, and last goal, for China at the 62 minute mark. Later minutes saw the efforts of Myanmar's girls, who tried to create scoring opportunities, while disregarding the difference in skills between the two teams. In another match, played the same day, Bangladesh defeated the Philippines 10-0.

The Myanmar team will next play Bangladesh on Friday at 6pm, while in the earlier match, China will play the Philippines at 3pm.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Yangon, Shan United FCs face loss in AFC Cup Group matches

MYANMAR'S football clubs, Yangon United and Shan United, suffered losses in the Group States of AFC Cup matches held on Tuesday.

Yangon United FC played to a 3-1 loss to Singaporean football club, Tampines Rovers FC, at the stadium in Yangon.

Sylla scored the only goal for Yangon United, while Khairul, Megumi and Mehmedovic scored for the Tampines Rovers.

Yangon United played with a 4-2-3-1 formation during their loss.

Although Yangon United led during the first half following Sylla's goal, the score changed in the second half as Yangon's defense collapsed.

The equaliser for Yangon United was scored by Khairul at 55 minutes.

The leading goal for the Tampines was scored by Mehmedovic after Kyaw Zin Htet denied their first attempt. Yet seven minutes later, the opponent again took the lead with the goal by Megumi.

At the final whistle, Yangon United suffered a defeat to the Tampines Rovers. 3-1.

Yangon United Head Coach Myo Min Tun said at a press conference, "We led

the match 1-0 ahead of the opponent in the first half. But in the second half, our players lost their concentration after 60 minutes.

So we allowed 3 goals and let them lead the match. We put in a great effort in the remaining minutes, but it was too late."

Likewise, Shan United FC played to a close loss of 3-2 to AFC Cup giant team Ceres Negros FC at Panaad Stadium in Bacolod, the Philippines, on Tuesday.

The Ceres team led the match with 2 goals in the first half, and Shan United made come from behind goals in the second half, but the winning goal was scored by Jose at 87 minutes.

With this loss, Shan United head coach U Min Thu said, "Although we lost the game, I'm satisfied with the performance of our players.

That was a good game for both sides. Ceres is definitely a good team in the AFC level. Our players managed to take on such a team.

I dare say that football fans who watched the game in the stadium, and those who watched it on TV, witnessed a good game". —Lynn Thit(Tgi) ■



Manchester City's Spanish coach Josep Guardiola reacts during the UEFA Champions League round of 16 first leg football match between Schalke 04 and Manchester City on 20 February, 2019 in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. **PHOTO: AFP**

Injuries no excuse for quadruple chasing Man City—Guardiola

MANCHESTER (United Kingdom)—Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has warned his players not to use injuries and fatigue as an excuse as the English champions chase a historic quadruple of trophies this season. City secured the first of a potential four-trophy haul by beating Chelsea on penalties on Sunday in the League Cup and entertain West Ham in the Premier League on Wednesday just a point adrift of leaders Liverpool. Guardiola's men also face Swansea in the FA Cup quarter-finals and are well set for the last eight of the Champions League after winning 3-2 away to Schalke in the first leg of their last 16 tie.

However, injuries to Aymeric Laporte and Fernandinho blighted victory on Sunday with John Stones

and Gabriel Jesus also unlikely to return before an international break in mid-March. "I don't want to see excuses from my players about tiredness, fixtures, schedules, the number of games. That is nothing," said Guardiola on Tuesday.

"When you have the opportunity to fight until the end, to fight for the title, then the power, the energy that gives you that is higher than any excuses you find. "We have to run and beat them (the opposition), then beat them again. In the last two months of the season, the mentality makes the difference. "I don't care about the way we play.

I want the smell in the locker room, I want to smell at the beginning of the game and during the game, that we can win. "When one competition is over I

want to see that we want to win this title. I want to see it on their faces they want to win the title and I hope that after I will be able to tell you I saw something special."

Fernandinho's absence was strongly felt when City lost to Crystal Palace and Leicester in December to cede Liverpool an advantage in the title race, while Laporte has made such a big impression in just over a year in England that the Frenchman was rewarded with a new contract last week.

"People say: Without this player, they are not the same. It doesn't matter," added Guardiola. "We have a good squad, a good second team, and I want to see the desire that we want to win the title."—AFP ■